



Patent Application of

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for

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**SELF-CONTAINED FLIGHT DATA RECORDER WITH
WIRELESS DATA RETRIEVAL**

Background -- Field of Invention

This invention relates to aviation, specifically to flight data recording systems as applied to light aircraft.

Background -- Cross References to Related Applications

This application claims the benefit of Provisional Patent Application no. 60/189,581, filed March 15, 2000.

Background -- Description of Prior Art

Most flight data recorders are designed for use in accident investigation in large aircraft such as wide-body airline jets. These are highly expensive systems that consist of several heavy and bulky pieces of equipment and a multitude of sensors and cables deployed throughout the aircraft, making it impractical for use in light aircraft. Recorded data is retrieved by attaching a portable device to the recorder or by physically removing the recorder and